

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus comprising, a first cooling roll, a nozzle is arranged to eject molten metal on a surface of the first cooling roll not tangentially but in a direction of collision with the latter, said first cooling roll adapted to quench the molten metal from the nozzle through collision into metal thin bodies and fly the produced metal thin bodies, and at least a second cooling roll on which the produced flown metal thin bodies are hit into flakes, said second cooling roll also serving for solidification of the molten metal not solidified by the first cooling roll, said cooling rolls being spaced apart by a gap of a size greater than thickness of metal thin bodies.

2. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of cooling rolls are arranged at different heights so that the produced metal thin bodies are sequentially hit on the rolls.

3. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein rotational axes of said cooling rolls are mutually out of parallelism.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said cooling rolls are adapted to have different roll diameters.

6. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle has a plurality of nozzle openings along an axis of the cooling roll.

7. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the nozzle openings of said nozzle have a sectional area of 0.78-78 mm².

8. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle and said cooling rolls are placed in atmospheric gas and windbreak members are arranged to prevent the atmospheric gas from being swirled by the rotating cooling rolls.

9. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein gas from atmospheric gas supply nozzles for supplying said atmospheric gas is directed to guide the metal flakes toward a storage box in which metal flakes are to be stored.

10. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said storage box has a cooler for cooling the metal flakes stored.

11. (Currently Amended) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus comprising, a first cooling roll, a nozzle is arranged to eject molten metal on a surface of the first cooling roll not tangentially but in a direction of collision with the latter, said first cooling roll adapted to quench the molten metal from the nozzle into metal thin bodies and at least a second cooling roll on which the produced metal thin bodies are hit into flakes, said second cooling roll also serving for solidification of the molten metal not solidified by the first cooling roll, said cooling rolls being spaced apart by a gap of a size greater than thickness of metal thin bodies, and a crushing member configured to crush the metal flakes,

wherein said nozzle and said cooling rolls are placed in atmospheric gas and windbreak members are arranged to prevent the atmospheric gas from being swirled by the rotating cooling rolls.

12. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein gas from atmospheric gas supply nozzles for supplying said atmospheric gas is directed to guide the metal flakes toward a storage box in which metal flakes are to be stored.

13. (Previously Presented) A metal-flake manufacturing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said storage box has a cooler for cooling the metal flakes stored.